


DIDSBURY REVIEW

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2007

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Volume 20 Issue 46



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Resident wants Didsbury 'stick curling capital of the world' Council eyes wall of fame instead



STICK HANDLING - Carson Schultz sends a rock into the house while stick curling at the Didsbury Curling Club, recently. Schultz was one of the first people to suggest to council that Didsbury could be the Stick Curling Capital of the World. Council declined and proposed a wall of fame instead.

BY JOSH SKAPIN
Didsbury Review

Harry Penner would like nothing more than to see Didsbury hold the title he feels it rightly deserves, "stick curling capital of the world."

Along with the tag, his idea includes a sculpture that would feature a stick curling stick and rock.

While Penner feels the idea would appropriately recognize Didsbury as the birthplace of a sport that continues to grow across North America, he also feels the sculpture would serve as a tourist attraction for the town.

"This isn't a first. We have this all over western Canada," he said, listing other municipalities that have promoted such things as the biggest goose, the biggest perogy, and the biggest Easter egg both nationally and internationally.

"It's a tourist attraction...I know people who travel just to see these things."

Penner says he has formed a committee, but feels it's essential to have backing from the Town of Didsbury.

"We need them on board, because this thing has to be financed," he said.

"(The town) has tourism dollars. I don't know where they go or what they do with them."

But I do think this is an ideal situation where some of these tourism dollars could be put to good use."

Penner adds, the town's approval is also necessary for making land available where the proposed sculpture would stand.

He feels the sculpture would need to be placed on the outskirts of town and would require a parking lot, which would give viewers a safe place to get out of their vehicles and observe the structure.

Prior to council making a decision on his idea, Penner says he wanted to see the town be represented on a feasibility committee that would determine appropriate

placement and cost, among other issues surrounding the sculpture.

"Stick curling is not just a fad that's going away, it's increasing by leaps and bounds."

Town council reviewed Penner's request at its meeting Nov. 3, but decided against the idea.

"Is that the brand we want for Didsbury? I don't think we want a specific brand for Didsbury and to be known for one thing," said Mayor Brian Wittal in an interview after the meeting.

"...I don't think the birthplace of stick curling is less or more important than (for example) someone winning the world championships of junior curling."

Wittal says council's decision wasn't meant to downplay the significance of stick curling in Didsbury, but they feel there is a need to recognize some of the town's other high-achievers.

Council instead discussed the possibility of a wall of fame.

A photo and short story on the individual or group accomplishment would be posted on the wall, suggested Wittal.

"Somewhere downtown where it can be a focal point would be good," said Councillor Jason Brander on the idea.

Brander later suggested a gala event for those who would be recognized for their achievements, on the wall.

Qualifications for being listed on the wall were not determined, but will be discussed as the idea progresses.

To protect the wall from vandalism, Wittal suggested the option of a piece of Plexiglas to be placed in front of the posted items.

"Maybe something like this is what's needed for some people to take pride in their community," said Wittal on the threat of vandalism to the project.

Land near the old train station is a potential spot for the wall, Wittal added.

Penner says he is disappointed with council's decision.

"I don't understand why an opportunity like this would just be passed up and rejected out of

"Stick curling is not just a fad that's going away, it's increasing by leaps and bounds."

HARRY PENNER
Didsbury resident

"Is that the brand we want for Didsbury? I don't think we want a specific brand for Didsbury and to be known for one thing."

BRIAN WITTAL
Mayor

hand," he said.
Council directed the Community Services Advisory Board to look into the idea of a wall of fame.



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Enter to win your
grocery purchase

Didsbury rental vacancy rate plummets to 0.9 per cent

BY JOSH SKAPIN
Didsbury Review

Apartment vacancies are dropping and rental prices are on the rise in Central Alberta, according to a recent study released by Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Not immune to the crunch is Didsbury, which fell to a vacancy rate of 0.9 per cent this year.

Didsbury Family Community Support Services (FCSS) Coordinator Nicole Aasen says she isn't surprised by the results.

Neighbourhood Place has existed in Didsbury for just over a year, and Aasen says at least every two weeks they hear from families with no affordable housing or no available rentals.

"With being in such close proximity to Calgary and Red Deer, we feel the after-effects of it, and it ripples out into these smaller communities."

Aasen says she believes that there is a misconception from some families that moving to a town like Didsbury would offer a wider selection of affordable housing

options.

"Yes the rent is cheaper," she said. "But there isn't nearly as much available to these people."

The survey also displayed rent costs, which determined those looking to move to Didsbury would need to pay an average of \$453 a month for a one-bedroom unit, \$580 a month for a two-bedroom unit, and \$695 a month for a three-bedroom unit.

When families aren't able to find or afford a place to stay in Didsbury, Aasen says she has heard of some staying with friends in the area, while others end up living in their vehicles or leaving the community all together.

"(They may) move to an area that isn't as close to the major centres, where there may be more housing opportunities available."

There is a greater struggle for families to find a residence, compared to a single individual who can look into the option of securing a roommate, said Aasen.

To that end, she has seen a 50/50 mix of families and single people looking for a home in town.

Aasen says when individuals or families

looking to move to Didsbury can't find a place to stay, there is little Neighborhood Place can do.

"The Alberta Government has set up a homelessness prevention funding program which would see the government help a family that may be facing eviction due to overdue rent or bills," she said.

"...the Town of Didsbury is not in the business of providing housing to people. All I can do is connect people with property managers and other people that I know who do rentals in the community and hope for

the best that way.

"But if there's nothing available and we're looking at a 0.9 per cent vacancy rate, then there's not a lot of luck."

Didsbury had a zero per cent vacancy rate when surveyed last year, which is a dramatic decrease from 9.9 per cent in 2005.

According to this year's survey, the only apartment type to show a vacancy was a three-bedroom unit - while bachelor, one-bedroom, two-bedroom, and four-bedroom suites all came up with zeros.

Towns face off in Carbury Cup

Curlers from Carstairs will be taking on Didsbury for the third year in a row for town bragging rights and the legendary Carbury Cup on Nov. 16 in Didsbury.

The competition pits eight stick curling teams from each town against each other in a grueling tournament of wits and skills to claim, for one year, who has the better curlers.

The first year saw the competition held on Didsbury ice with Didsbury taking the Cup while the second year was held in Carstairs with Carstairs curlers leaving

as victors.

Only adding fuel to the fire is the challenge laid between the two mayors in the last several weeks: the town mayor of the losing team has to wear the CFL jersey of the other's choice to their respective next town meeting.

Rumour is, one of the mayors' is a Stampeder's fan while the other cheers for the Riders.

All spectators are welcome to come and cheer on their town's teams starting at 9 a.m.

Christmas Blessings

Store Hours -
Monday to Friday
10am - 4pm

Located in Checker Auto Part Bldg.

Main Street Didsbury

Please Drop Christmas Donations off at

Household Goods Thrift Store

Proceeds from the Christmas Store

will once again go towards

- Calgary Mustard Seed Street Ministry

- Mountain View Food Bank



Here's what Albertans had to say about

crime reduction

Earlier this year, Alberta's Crime Reduction and Safe Communities Task Force traveled the province to hear what Albertans had to say about making our communities safer. The final report and recommendations have been submitted to the Minister of Justice. Albertans told the task force they want action on crime and its causes.

In response, the Government of Alberta has a number of new provincewide initiatives that will focus on enforcement, prevention and treatment. These initiatives will help make communities safer for all Albertans.

For a copy of the final report, call 310 4455 or visit www.safecommunities.gov.ab.ca.



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du Canada

New Horizons for Seniors Program Public Notice

The Government of Canada invites local non-profit organizations to apply for funding under the New Horizons for Seniors Program.

Capital assistance is available for upgrades to community buildings and equipment related to seniors' programs and activities.

The deadline for applying is December 14, 2007.

For more information, please visit www.hrsdc.gc.ca or call us at: 1-800-277-9914 and select '0' to speak to an agent
TTY: 1-800-255-4786

Canada

BRIAN'S PICK OF THE WEEK 2005 Chev 1500 4x4 C/C LS Special Edition



Brian Maetche



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TOM OWO



Carla Victor/Didsbury Review

LAMENT — Pipe Major Rodger Yule, British Indian Territorial Army, 19th Medium Artillery Pipe Band, pipes dignitaries out of the hall. Westglen Middle School held the annual Remembrance Day Ceremony Nov. 9 with guest speakers from the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, Royal Canadian Armed Forces, Chinook's Edge School Division and students from Didsbury High and Westglen Middle Schools.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Together we raised \$60,280 for STARS Air Rescue.



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Profitable Business Well established Drycleaning business, growth potential, make money immediately. \$119,900	203 Westhill Close SOLD FAMILIES WELCOME! Fully developed, totally upgraded, double heated garage, main floor laundry, move into. \$314,900	1505 - 14 st. Didsbury 2500 sq ft + home, 7 bedrooms, large family room, heated garage, large yard. \$339,900	1507 Idaho Street Carstairs BRAND NEW 2 bdrms, 2 baths, main floor laundry, open plan. \$319,900	84 Acres West of Didsbury GOOD WELL. Great building sites for your dream home, fabulous views. \$399,900	2130 - 19 Avenue Didsbury A LABOR OF LOVE Fully developed 3 bdrms, 4 baths. Every square inch is AMAZING! Double garage. \$449,900
Didsbury Mobile 2 bedrooms, fenced yard, addition and appliances. \$22,000	Didsbury Condo 4 bdrms, fully developed, nicely upgraded. Ready to move into. \$198,000	74 Westpoint Drive Fully developed, backs onto treed area, open plan, 3 bdrms, 4 baths. \$399,900	19 Julia Place Didsbury SOLD 4 bedrooms, over 1300 sq. ft., large double garage, very nice kitchen. \$319,900	1717 - 14 st. Didsbury 114'x281' lot, older 4 bedroom home, huge shop, double heated garage. \$369,900	Irricana 3 bedrooms, nice open plan, backs onto farmer's field. Ready to move into. \$319,900
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Opinion

Wasteful world

KRISTIN BENOIT



I was waiting in line at Sobeys the other day, and I noticed those chocolate bars that come in "single" portions – I guess so people don't, heaven forbid, feel the need to eat a whole chocolate bar.

Maybe it's a good idea to some people – but is anyone else noticing the disgusting amount of packaging being wasted in order to help us exercise more self-control over our chocolate cravings?

And that's only part of the issue.

Our society, or maybe it's those savvy marketing people, seem to be completely backwards when it comes to saving our environment – are we supposed to be reducing waste or bringing on the packaging?

In the past year particularly, there has been a massive concern projected by the media about the harm we are doing to the environment and how we have to stop "before it's too late".

Every other commercial on TV is about recycling more, using reusable bags at the grocery store, and "flicking off" the lights.

However, while one commercial will be about our world quickly coming to an end if we don't smarten up and stop wasting so much, the next is for Kit Kats "now in singles" packaging, so you don't have to worry about feeling guilty over a chocolate craving.

Does this make no sense to anyone else but me?

The ones that frustrate me even more are those Swiffer cleaning commercials.

Apparently everything we clean with now is too dirty, so we need a floor cleaning device with disposable cloths and feather dusters that need to be replaced every time you use them.

Now tell me, what is more wasteful than that?

I am absolutely disgusted by the amount of waste being produced to begin with, but now it's just sickly ironic when compared to the amount of "concern" being projected over harming the environment.

What is so wrong with using a regular mop and sponge to clean the house?

The Swiffer commercials say it's too dirty to do that, but you know, soap was made for a reason.

Or better yet, why not just go the natural way and not clean the house at all?

That would probably be the most environmentally friendly thing to do.

Now back to chocolate (don't ask me why)...apparently a normal-sized chocolate bar needs to be split up and put in individual packaging so we don't eat as much.

Are they suggesting that everyone has a problem with self-control?

Because if self-control is obviously that much of a problem, how are we going to control how much waste we throw away?

Besides, one measly piece of a Kit Kat seems like more of a tease than an actual satisfaction to your chocolate craving.

Not to mention all the waste it's adding to the environment.

Now I'm going to eat one of those Kit Kat jumbo max bars, or whatever they're called, because all this talk has given me a mad craving for a great big chocolate bar – with the least amount of packaging, of course.



BY SCOTT HENNIG

There has been a lot of attention lately on public opinion polls surrounding the royalty hike issue and the popularity of the various political parties in Alberta.

A recent Leger Marketing poll for CanWest newspapers asked Albertans if they thought the royalty changes would "have a positive effect on me or my family through improved government spending on programs." A mere 37 per cent agreed it would.

The Alberta government is claiming they will get an additional \$1.4-billion in royalty revenues (whether it will actually materialize is a whole different debate), yet barely over a third of Albertans feel this will benefit them. At first blush, this is a puzzling result, especially considering the results of a Leger Marketing poll from a month earlier indicating 88 per cent of Albertans believe they are not getting their "fair share" from oil and gas royalties. 88 per cent felt royalties need to be hiked, yet only 37 per cent feel the result of hiking royalties will be positive for them or their family. How can this be the case?

Perhaps this is an indication the rest (63 per cent) of Albertans realize just how shoddy a record the

Commentary

Poll dance

Alberta government has when it comes to putting your tax dollars to use.

The Alberta government will spend \$9,526 per Albertan this year, the highest amount in Canada. In fact, it's 14 per cent higher than BC, 26 per cent higher than Manitoba and 37 per cent higher than Quebec. Perhaps the Stelmach government should poll Albertans as to whether they think their top-dollar spending gets them the best government services in Canada?

To be sure, this is an unfair question, as most Albertans will not have travelled from province to province measuring public health and education outcomes.

Well then, how about comparing Alberta to Alberta? Why not compare Alberta circa 1995-96 (when Alberta was in the depths of its budget chopping) to today? If you buy into the argument more government spending equals better outcomes, you then should agree less government spending should mean worse outcomes. Presumably, the "worst" health and education system the province has ever had would have been in 1995-96 when spending was at its lowest, and the "best" would be today when spending is at its highest.

Just looking at the raw num-

bers, Alberta spent \$3.8-billion on health care in 1995-96, and it's going to spend \$12.2-billion this year – a 224 per cent increase in just over a decade. Even if one adjusts for population and inflation growth, Alberta is spending 83 per cent more today than it did in 1995 on health care. For education, the inflation and population adjusted figure shows a 33 per cent increase in spending.

How about polling Albertans to see if they believe Alberta's health care system is 83 per cent better today than it was in 1995-96? Similarly, poll Albertans if Alberta's education system is one-third better today than it was in 1995-96?

Likely, professionals in health and education fields would be able to point to some slight improvements in wait-lists or class sizes, but anyone who has used either system over the past decade can tell you there hasn't been the revolutionary change the numbers would suggest should be the case.

This lack of significant change is precisely why it should not be that shocking a mere 37 per cent of Albertans believe they will see some positive effect from "improved" government spending.

If the Stelmach government continues to ramp-up spending – with or without royalty changes – deficits or tax increases will follow as sure as day turns to night. In that event, the Stelmach government can be assured its own poll numbers will be anything but "improved."

DIDSBURY REVIEW

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How can we help you?

Letters to the editor: Letters submitted for publication must be signed and bear the address, phone number and e-mail address of the writer. Please keep your letter to 500 words or less. Letters may be edited for grammar, punctuation, spelling, length and libel. Unsigned letters will NOT be published. Use of pseudonyms will be permitted only under special circumstances, provided the writer's identity is known to The Review.

News and photos: If you have a news item or a photo opportunity you feel may be of interest to readers, please call 335-3301.

Display and classified advertising: Please call 335-3301 and we will be happy to help you place your advertisement. Classified advertising deadline: Friday 12 noon. Display advertising copy deadline: Friday 12 noon.

Household Goods Thrift store donation

Dear Mrs. Peters,

At the November 6, 2007 meeting of Didsbury Town Council, Council discussed the letter that was sent to you on October 5, 2007. In Council's opinion, the letter did not go far enough in expressing council's apologies to the Thrift Store and to you relative to the Town of Didsbury coding the donation from the Thrift Store into the wrong account. This error made it appear that the Town was not appreciative of the donation and the hard work that made the donation possible.

A number of people put in many hours of volunteer labor to allow this \$15,000 donation which was dedicated to the construction of a cover for the stage at Memorial Park. For whatever reason, the

donation that was made in 2003 was put into a general reserve account and the present Administration did not have any knowledge that this money had a specified and dedicated purpose.

Council and Administration take full responsibility for this error and we apologize.

You may have read the excellent article in the Didsbury Review that the walking path through Memorial Park is now complete. The town crews are working overtime to attempt to complete the construction of the ball diamonds this fall. Once this phase of the park is complete our attention will turn to the amphitheatre and the stage.

Town administration will be bringing forth to council recommenda-

tions that will see Memorial Park and the stage becoming a focal point for the park and the community. Our vision has always been to see the stage used as a venue to showcase local, national and international talent. Knowing that there is already \$15,000 set aside for this project is extremely positive and encouraging.

Again please accept our thanks to each and every volunteer who made this donation possible and please accept our sincere apologies for mistakes that were made in not directing these funds to the proper account.

Together, we are going to build a park and a town that we all can be proud.

Mayor Brian Wittall
Didsbury

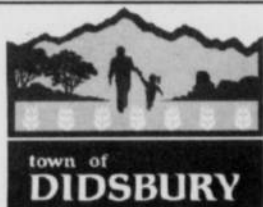
Charity starts at home

Dear Editor:

I have been reading about the good work some of our farming community has been doing. Please do not get me wrong, I think it is wonderful that there are people out there actually doing something to help the less fortunate.

My question is, whatever happened to the idea that charity starts at home? There are many communities right here in the province of Alberta which have either no water or very bad water, very little food and unfit homes to live and raise their children in. For the life of me, I cannot understand why some of this generosity is not being spread around to our own. Or is it that the people of this country think there is no poverty right here close to home? Well, I can tell you for a fact there is. Maybe the blinders and the rose-coloured glasses need to be taken off.

Barb Hanna
Didsbury



www.didsbury.ca

Open: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm — Monday to Friday

Town Administration Office: 2037—19 Avenue • Phone: (403) 335-3391 • Fax: (403) 335-9794

DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS:

Shop: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm	335-8343
Planning & Development	335-7356
Didsbury Neighborhood Place	335-8719
Community Services & FCSS	335-8719
Didsbury Landfill	335-2005
Memorial Complex & Aquatic Centre	335-7369
Rosebud Valley Campground	335-8578
Chamber of Commerce Office	335-3265
Library	335-3142

PUBLIC MEETINGS & NOTICES

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Tuesday, November 27, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. Council Chambers
Tuesday, December 18, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. Council Chambers

MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

Wednesday, November 21, 2007 at 4:30 p.m. Council Chambers
Wednesday, December 5 & 19, 2007 at 4:30 p.m. Council Chambers

DIDSBURY LIFELINE SOCIETY:

Monday, December 10, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. Council Chambers

The Town Office will be closed the second Friday of every month from Noon to 1:00 pm (December 14, 2007)

NEW DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT PERMITS HAVE BEEN ISSUED FOR THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS:

DP 142-07	1812 – 20 Street	Sign	C1
DP 143-07	#104/#105, 1610 – 20 Street	Sign	C1

Further information may be obtained at the Town Office, 2037 - 19 Avenue or by calling 335-3391. Person(s) wishing to appeal any of these decisions must do so in writing, with the appropriate fees, to the Secretary, Development Appeal Board, prior to 4:30 p.m. on **November 27, 2007**.

Robert Wigg, Development Officer

Notice: According to Bylaw 95-01 (the Building Permit Bylaw), the Town of Didsbury may charge double the permit fees if unauthorized work, including excavation, has been started before the issuance of a permit. Please remember to apply for all appropriate permits including development, building, electrical, gas and plumbing. Permits are required for such projects as Single Family Dwellings, garages, sheds over 144 ft², woodstoves, commercial building change of business, etc. If you're unsure if you require a permit, please call 335-3391.

Pre-Season Basketball Camp November 24, 2007



Westglen School Didsbury

For more information, visit:
www.didsbury.ca/rec

Didsbury Aquatic Centre

Please note the following changes to the Didsbury Aquatic Centre Schedule:

November 16	Closed at 5:00 pm
November 17	Public 1:00-5:00 pm
November 23	Closed at 6:00 pm



Didsbury Aquatic Centre

WEEK LONG LESSONS

Starting November 19 to

December 14, 2007

Ask us about our Special Rates!

NEW BLACK & GREEN BIN PICK UP SCHEDULE

The schedule for Compost Green Bin and Garbage Black Bin pick up has changed. A new schedule from November 2007 to March 2008 will be included in the November utility billing.

NOVEMBER 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
X	X	X	X	X	X	X

LEGEND:

COMPOST (GREEN BIN)

GARBAGE: (BLACK BIN)

NO PICK-UP: X

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Town of Didsbury Community Services Department is looking for an adult/teenage FACILITATOR to run a very popular Town of Didsbury program.

Sports for Shorts – This program runs six consecutive Monday evenings from 6-7 pm in the Didsbury Multi-Purpose Room. This is a basic introduction to organized sports and games for children aged 3-5 years old. The successful candidate will be responsible, enthusiastic and love spending time with children.

Please apply to:

Nicole Aasen, Community Services Coordinator

Box 790, Didsbury, AB, T0M 0W0

Email: naasen@didsbury.ca

Phone: (403) 335-8719 Fax (403) 335-9794

Application deadline: November 30, 2007

2008 COMMUNITY SERVICES PROMOTIONAL REQUESTS

Application deadline is December 1, 2007

Application available at www.didsbury.ca
or at the Didsbury Neighborhood Place
2030 - 17th Avenue

Please contact Nicole Aasen at 335-8719
for more information.

2007 Tax Reminder

November Tax Statements have been mailed.

In accordance to Bylaw #95-14

Payment must be received by December 31st, 2007
to avoid the 18% penalty applied on January 2, 2008.

Didsbury jazz festival to provide experience for area musicians

RCA band to perform in town

BY JOSH SKAPIN
Didsbury Review

Schools across Chinook's Edge School Division will be represented in a jazz festival to take place at the Zion Evangelical Church in Didsbury Nov. 21.

Didsbury High School's Kirk Wassmer and Westglen School's Heather Biggin collaborated to launch the annual event three years ago.

Wassmer says the school division would hold a similar festival featuring the honour band every February, but they saw the need for young musicians with an interest in jazz music.

"You don't get much of an opportunity to hear live jazz, and that's what jazz is all about, it's about listening to it and learning by hearing how other people do it."

Wassmer says professional musicians from Calgary, Edmonton and Red Deer will be brought to the festival to work with students on their specific instrument.

"To bring it here and let them learn in their own neighbourhood is something very significant."

Wassmer says the value of the festival is in providing students a desire to work harder at what they're doing.

"They'll have more of an idea of what jazz is and what it sounds like," he said.

"(It's) a model for them to base their music on, but also the knowledge and understanding that they're part of the bigger picture."

Wassmer says sometimes musicians get tunnel vision.

"We sit in our music rooms, we rehearse and we perform at our concerts, but I think these kids can lock on to the fact that they are part of a larger community...even within our division, for kids from Didsbury to see the band from Olds play, and the band from Carstairs play, and they know that

they're not alone in what they're doing."

Biggin shares Wassmer's sentiment.

"The goal of the festival is to bring in performing musicians so (students) can see it - and learn from actual performers," she said.

"They can see this is something they can do with their lives."

Aside from the workshops, while their performances won't be to compete against one another, participating bands will be allotted 20 minutes to play in front of an adjudicator.

Students and the general public are invited to attend a concert by the Royal Canadian Artillery (RCA) Band from Edmonton slated to start at 7:30 p.m.

The RCA band is expected to play a set that is approximately an hour and fifteen minutes in length, with a focus on Christmas music.

Band representative, Cam Martin says the band commonly travels to rural centres.

"We are trying to visit a lot of the smaller communities and bring an awareness about the band and the military," he said.

"We do get the odd student that comes up and asks us questions on how they can enroll. And we do get a few people trying to enlist in the service trying to become musicians."

The festival will include bands from Carstairs, Didsbury, Olds, Innisfail, Sylvan Lake, and Cremona.

CHAMBER CHAT

Country Christmas in Didsbury!

Mark your calendar for Friday, November 30th and point your car to Didsbury for Country Christmas!

The town of Didsbury is quite possibly the very best decorated community in Alberta during the Christmas season, and you might just want to bring your camera along. The Chamber of Commerce acknowledges all the businesses who decorate their storefronts, and gives special thanks to For Trees Company and their staff, and our volunteers who pull it all together.

Bring the kids and take in all the fun. Hop on board a wagon and take a hayride around town. Make sure you stop in all the participating stores, and get your name in the draw for a free turkey! Turkeys will be going home to about 50 lucky winners! Stop in at the Train Station, visit with Santa Claus, and get your picture taken with the "Jolly Old Elf". And new this year is our Star Gazing Exhibit; see if you can get a glimpse of Holmes' Comet!!

Best of all during Country Christmas is the great feeling you get while shopping at home. Didsbury retailers have got some of the neatest gift ideas. Chocolates and candy, candles and vases, gift baskets, tools, slippers and mittens, gift certificates, and more! Great specials on gift wrap, Christmas cards, and all those ornaments and trimming for the tree... you'll find it all in Didsbury during Country Christmas!

For more information on the Chamber, give us a call at 335-3265, send us an e-mail at info@didsburychamber.ca or check us out on the web at www.didsburychamber.ca.

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Didsbury, Carstairs mayors to meet with ministers

Wittal says regional approach could be beneficial

BY JOSH SKAPIN
Didsbury Review

At the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) conference, two neighbouring towns will be joining forces in having their voices heard.

Carstairs Mayor Lance Colby scheduled private appointments with a number of ministers who will be present at the event Nov 28 to 30 in Calgary.

Knowing Didsbury shares many of the same concerns that his town does, Colby contacted Didsbury Mayor Brian Wittal and asked if he would like to be included in the discussions.

"What you're trying to do is help the government build and develop strategies with input," said Wittal.

Wittal says teaming with Colby will allow their concerns to be seen as regional issues.

He believes municipalities in Mountain View County may have a preferred status when discussing other regional cooperative initiatives, because of their history of success.

"Here in Mountain View County, we're seen as the flagship in the province for inter-municipal cooperation because of the memorandum of understanding that we have with the county," he said. "It's the first in the province, and (the provincial government) is trying to use it as a model to get others to do it as well."

According to Wittal, his focus will be on discussions with those responsible for infrastructure, sewer treatment, housing, and policing.

In his meeting with housing minister Ray

Danyluk, Wittal says he plans to discuss affordable housing and seniors' housing.

Wittal mentioned the idea of hostel-like lodgings commonly seen in Europe as an affordable housing option.

"Not every suite needs a

Wittal says he supports the idea of a low-cost, hostel-like residence that would serve as temporary or transitional housing.

Wittal also aims to speak with the solicitor general about policing issues.

"They're saying right

pays for policing when a municipality's population tops 5,000, he said, citing counties (Mountain View County's population is over 12,000) as an example.

"Why the discrepancy?" he said. "Not that we're saying the county should pay more, but we're (asking) if not them, why do we have to?"

"The RCMP, and I don't know what the breakdown is, spends a lot of time on rural calls. More time travelled and more expense there than they are in the urbans. Where's the equity in this scenario?"

Wittal says he needs to justify to his taxpayers why others in the area are paying less for the same service.

"If you don't get in the minister's face and talk specifically about these things and bring the details to them...you can whine and complain, but bring some solutions with it," said Wittal.

"If you don't get in the minister's face and talk specifically about these things and bring the details to them...you can whine and complain, but bring some solutions with it."

BRIAN WITTAL,
mayor

bathroom," he said. "You've got four or five or six families living in a house together. Asian and Indian families do that more commonly because that's what they're used to."

now, communities under 5,000 don't pay for policing. Yes, we do. Everybody pays taxes to the province and the province covers it."

But where things become unclear is who



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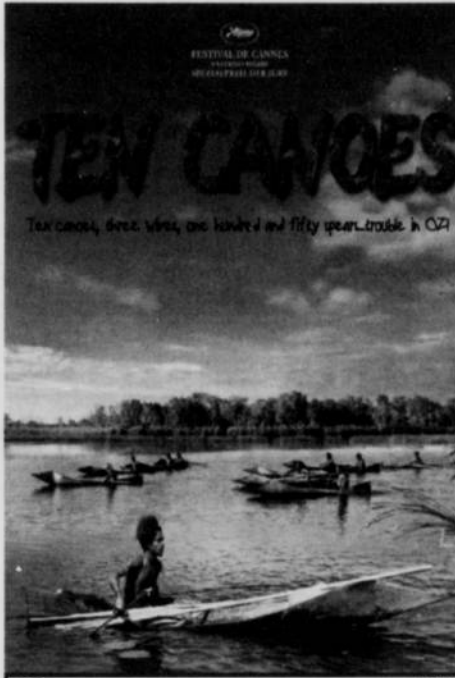
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Remembering Saitama

Didsbury man's Japanese hockey team to play the Ramblers

BY JOSH SKAPIN
Didsbury Review

For Jeff Chomyn, a stint teaching English in a city neighbouring Tokyo, Japan was only supposed to last six months.

Now, living in Didsbury, Chomyn has fifteen memory-filled years of a country and its people that captured his imagination.

In three weeks, the Didsbury Minor Hockey Association will host the team Chomyn, as its head coach, led to four national titles.

The Saitama Sakae will play an exhibition match with the Didsbury Midget Ramblers at the Didsbury Memorial Complex Dec. 5.

The visitors are participating in a AA midget tournament in Medicine Hat that week and Chomyn admits, he couldn't waste the opportunity to see his old team again.

"I wanted to see them," he said.

"They're basically like kids of mine."

Chomyn pitched the idea to the parents of the midget hockey team who gave an enthusiastic thumbs up, before getting a nod from the Didsbury Minor Hockey Association.

Chomyn has viewed a few of the Ramblers games and believes it should be a good match.

"One of the things Canadian teams tend to do is say 'this is a small team, we're going to crush them.' They have no idea how fit these kids are," he said, likening their fitness level, due to an intense and diverse training regimen, to a Western Hockey League player.

Teaching English in Japan was a job Chomyn picked up to help bankroll a backpacking adventure that took him around the world.

While in Japan, having played at various high levels of hockey in Alberta

including Junior A, he used his expertise to launch a hockey school.

Following his worldwide trip, Chomyn returned to Japan where he continued his hockey school in addition to being enticed to help coach a team at an area academy, Saitama Sakae.

"One of the things Canadian teams tend to do is say 'this is a small team, we're going to crush them.' They have no idea how fit these kids are."

JEFF CHOMYN

While his first practice involved nothing more than skating with the team, the

second practice was where he took the lead role.

"(the head coach) turned to me and said, 'you make the practice menu'," said Chomyn.

"They had a translator there for me and everything."

While the Albertan later became well versed in Japanese, naturally his grasp of the language was limited at the start.

Chomyn looked at his team, then to his translator, before asking the coach, "is this guy going to be here all the time?"

As expected, the answer was no, and before long, the Crownsnest Pass product would have to linguistically fend for himself.

Picking up a marker, he approached the whiteboard and plotted out his drills.

"They did a lot of things they had never done before," he said.

As the practice ended and the team headed off the ice, the coach skated over to Chomyn and said "from now on, you make all the practice menus."

Upon agreeing to his new responsibilities, Chomyn was asked by the coach what he felt was the most important thing his team could do to make their group a winner.

"Here in Canada, from the tyke level, all the way up to Junior A and the NHL and even beer league hockey, nobody ever throws their uniform on the floor. It's always hanging on the hanger" he said.

"They had a lot of the technical knowledge, but as far as hockey as a culture, it's very different."

Every school day started with a 7 a.m. practice, going from Monday to Saturday.

Chomyn says an element of Japanese culture he noted to be interesting was that every child was involved in a group or team of some sort or another.

"They teach them the rules of society and how to function within a group," he said.

His success coaching in the country provided Chomyn with the opportunity to help with the Japanese National team, which would compete in the World Championships, including capturing a silver medal, in the level just below where Team Canada participates.

"That was a neat experience. It was educational and I met a lot of smart hockey people there."

But after four years with the national team, Chomyn stepped aside from the position and turned his focus back to grassroots hockey and developing his troop in Saitama.

More on the Japanese hockey team's meeting with the Didsbury Ramblers in next week's Didsbury Review.

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Outlaws 4-H Horse Club

BY JULIA FRUSON

Howdy, all! Wow, our club has really grown this year. We have 21 members this year. Tori White is our general leader and Angela Pratt, Val Fleming, Kathy Richards, Maggie Dube and Karla Fruson are assistant leaders.

Marissa Pratt is club president, Amy Richards is vice-president, Alison Wallace is the secretary, and Nicole Dube is treasurer. Katie Fleming, Danielle Wallace, Julia Fruson, Denim Brown and Jake White are reporters. Carissa Fruson, Ethan Fruson, Jake White, Katie Fleming

and Denim Brown are photographers.

We are excited to have Dean Peachment and Mary-Ellen Spears returning as riding instructors.

We are welcoming spectators on Nov. 18 at 2 p.m. at the Caluori Pavilion in Olds for our dress up and games ride. Our members dress up both themselves and their horses.

Our club will be participating in Operation Porch Light

to encourage our community to be energy efficient. We will be handing out light bulbs and info packages in and around Didsbury.

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Duties will include gathering and entering customer data and records, implementing and monitoring recordkeeping system, interacting with clients and dealers, and organizing promotional materials and events.

Competitive salary with an incentive package and full benefits are available with this position.

Resumes may be faxed to 335-8134 attention Human Resources. The company thanks those who applied in advance. Only interview candidates will be contacted.

The Linden Nursing Home at Linden, Alberta, currently has an opening for a PART TIME HOUSEKEEPING POSITION

Only those applicants considered for an interview will be contacted. For more information, please contact Roland Toews at 403-546-3966 or fax to 403-546-4061

The Linden Nursing Home at Linden, Alberta, currently has an opening for a registered nurse, and also has a part time registered dietitian position to fill.

For more information, please contact Roland Toews at 403-546-3966 or fax to 403-546-4061.

CLASSIFIEDS WHERE BUYERS AND SELLERS MEET

1005. Help Wanted

FARM HELP: Herds person required for farrow-to-finish hog/grain operation (Carstairs area) 30 minutes north of Calgary with acreage housing available. Duties will include all aspects of hog production and operating farm equipment. Call 337-2815 or fax resume to 337-5829

4030. Horses & Tack

3 YEAR OLD PAINT GELDING with papers. \$1000.00/obo Jackie @ (403)507-8383. Leave message

5110. Houses For Rent

1100+ SQ.FT., 3 bedroom home, Westhill area. Available Dec.1/07 N/S, N/P. Very reasonable rent 335-9496

5130. Apartments For Rent

DIDSBURY RECENTLY RENOVATED 3 bedroom apartment. Spacious, clean and quiet. 1.5 baths, fenced yard, no dogs. \$600/month Available Dec.1. Ph.403-932-7201

Have a room for rent?
Why not advertise
in the Review!

5155. Shared Accomodations

RESPONSIBLE, preferably non smoker, to share a house (403)994-0700

Do you feel
like no one is
LISTENING!
Call 335-3301

Didsbury
REVIEW

180. Thank You

The Midway E.C.S. Society would like to send thanks to the following businesses for contributing to our annual Halloween Arcade at the Midway Community School. It was very generous for these businesses to give to our school and help make our arcade such a success.

Thank-you:
• Didsbury Value Drug Mart
• Carmen's Big Way Foods, Crossfield
• Rexall Drugs, Crossfield
• Zion Evangelical Missionary Church, Didsbury
The Midway Community School and the Midway E.C.S. Society would like to send thanks to everyone that attended the Annual Pie Social evening. Plenty of people came out and supported the Midway School and would not have been a success without them. A special thank-you to the parents and families that donated the pies and other items that were auctioned off during the evening. Thank you to Cecil Klassen, from Linden, who was our auctioneer for the evening. We would like to thank the Aldrie Safeway for donating a cake that was specially decorated with the Midway Community School logo. Also a very big thank you to Jill Croteau and Global TV Calgary for coming to our event and covering our Save Our School campaign. We will see you all again next year at our Annual Pie Social!



Thank you

A special Thank you to all who have given us so much support with your phone calls, visits, flowers and cards. It has meant so much to us since the passing of our sister, Jean Gooding. Words cannot express our appreciation. God's blessings to all
Sincerely Shirley & Charlie Snyder, Nell & Jack Freeman, Vic & Yvonne Sullivan & Families.

190. Announcements



Happy to announce the marriage of
Dusty & Nichole
July 1, 2007
Proud parents are
Kelly & John
Burke of Calgary
and Gerry & Lynn
Samoisette
of Didsbury.

RUGBY TURKEY SUPPER

Nov. 18 • 2-6 p.m.

Adults \$10

6-11 \$5

Preschoolers free

Info 335-4248, 335-8767



Community Baby Shower for
Gavin Korschuh
son of Ryan and Shannon
Korschuh at Westcott
Community Hall on Sunday,
Nov. 25, 07 at 2 to 5 p.m.
Everyone welcome.



POP QUIZ:

Which would you rather
have Didsbury Review
readers see?

1) Your ad here

2) Our ad here

Call today and don't miss
another week of great
coverage with the
Didsbury Review

Call Leanne
today at
335-3301

SELL YOUR HOME FAST AND FOR TOP DOLLAR

Call for a FREE Market Evaluation



• No Cost • No Obligation • Any Time

335-0007



CARSTAIRS

\$168,000
1200+ sq. ft. modular on large owned lot, dbl detached garage, garden plot & shed.



CARSTAIRS

\$349,900
Family home, 3 bedrooms, bungalow style, double attached garage, over 1200 sq. ft. Buy now pick your colors.



CARSTAIRS ON GOLF COURSE

\$399,900
4 level split, over 1700 sq. ft. completed living space, 3 bedrooms finished. Call now!



DIDSBURY DUPLEX

\$249,900
4 bedrooms, Quiet location. Back alley with Single Detached Garage



CARSTAIRS

\$349,900
New construction in west Highlands, vaulted ceilings, 3 bedrooms, backs onto a green space, hardwood floors.



INNISFAIL

\$399,900
2400 sq. ft. total living, 4 bedrooms, RV parking, low maintenance yard.



ADULT LIVING

\$279,900
Duplex in the +45 quiet cul-de-sac just behind the hospital in Didsbury. Single attached garage, with beautiful backyard landscaping.



INNISFAIL

\$354,500
Family bungalow, 4 bedrooms, fully finished basement, double attached garage, bright open floor plan.



DIDSBURY CEDAR LOG HOME

\$445,000
3000 sq. ft. total living space, 5 bedrooms, beautiful vaulted ceilings, hot tub, dble garage.



DIDSBURY STARTER

\$289,000
3 bedrooms, across from future lake in Valarosa, nice open floor plan, partially finished bsmt.



CARSTAIRS

\$393,000
Fully developed bungalow, 4 bedrooms, 1600 sq. ft., double detached garage, mature yard.



DIDSBURY FAMILY HOME

\$449,900
Over 2800 sq. ft. bi-level, 4 bedrooms, triple garage, hardwood throughout, 11' ceilings. Call now!



ADULT DUPLEX

\$289,000
2 bedrooms, 1116 sq. ft., hardwood floors, with a single attached garage, and fully landscaped.

Come in and see our MORTGAGE BROKER located in our Didsbury Office Call today for your free approval!



ACREAGE LIFE

\$389,900
Fully renovated 4 bedroom raised bungalow. Nicely treed lot. 6 miles East of QEII just off hwy 582.



ADULT DUPLEX

\$299,000
Exclusive 1220 sq. ft. duplex in 45 plus area. 1 bedroom with den, main floor laundry.

CALL JAMES CARPENTER TODAY FOR A FREE HOME EVALUATION



LAKE PROPERTY

\$539,000
Executive Lake Property - Olds. Walkout basement. Prime location. Shows 100%. 19 Lake Ridge Rd.



DIDSBURY

\$304,900
Exclusive 45 plus area close to the hospital. Brand new 2 bedroom duplex with over 1191 sq'.



ACREAGE

\$569,900
1300+ sq. ft., 4 bedroom home on 15 acres, barn, corrals, quonset, hayland. SE of Didsbury.



ADULT DUPLEX

\$314,900
Exclusive 2 bedroom duplex over 1191 sq' in a 45 plus area, with a fully developed basement.



16 ACRES

\$899,000
Subdivisible, 2 homes and plenty of room to move. Double & single garages.



CARSTAIRS

\$324,900
Carriage Lane Way, 3 bedrooms, 1214 sq. ft., double attached garage, beautiful new construction.

WE HAVE LOTS AVAILABLE for walk-out homes backing onto a pond. CUSTOM BUILD. Call our office.



BUSINESS FOR SALE

Busy award winning drive thru restaurant in friendly fast growing central Alberta town, open year 'round. Great family business with unlimited potential on prime real estate.



ROSE BUD VALLEY

\$327,500
1241 sq. ft. 3 bedroom new home being built on a corner lot in a cul-de-sac by Rose Bud Creek



CARSTAIRS 2 STOREY

\$398,900
New construction in The Havenfields, 3 bedrooms, close to school and community centre, over 1800 sq. ft.



LIGHT INDUSTRIAL LOTS

We have service 1 acre lots available for immediate use.

Starting at **\$149,000**



CARSTAIRS

\$349,900
Single family dwelling, 3 bedroom, over 1200 sq. ft., price includes GST.



CARSTAIRS BUNGALOW

\$398,900
Buy now and pick your colors. Walk-out basement, fireplace, with open floorplan.

THE JAMES CARPENTER TEAM



James Carpenter



Gerry Tonn



Marilyn Moncur



Terry Falk

www.jamescarpenter.ca



Comic Corner